

Remarks

Claims 22-33 are presently active, claims 34, 38, and 39 having been cancelled by this Amendment.

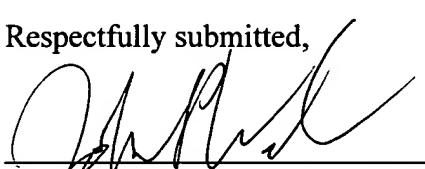
In the office action dated 2 January 2003 ("Office Action"), claims 22-34, 38, and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lvovsky et al., U.S. patent 4,620,310 ("Lvovsky").

Applicants believe that claims 22-33 as they currently stand are patentable over Lvovsky. Note that in Fig. 3 of Lvovsky, transistor Q1 has no terminal connected to the transmission line. Instead, the transistor is coupled to the transmission line via a resistor and a capacitor. But claims 22 and 31 recite that the drain of the pMOSFET is connected to the transmission line. This is an important distinction from Lvovsky. In particular, the presence of the capacitor in Lvovsky provides a key distinction. As discussed in Lvovsky, column 6, lines 19-45, the capacitor allows the driver of Fig. 3 to provide negative voltage pulses as well as positive voltage pulses. The present invention has no such capacitor coupling the pMOSFET to the transmission line because the drain of the pMOSFET is connected to the transmission line.

Accordingly, Applicants believe that claims 22 and 31, as well as all presently active claims because of their dependence upon either claim 22 or claim 31, are patentable over Lvovsky.

Dated: 5/2, 2003

Respectfully submitted,


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